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AFRL lab researcher Dr. Lehr named New Mexico outstanding woman *by Conrad E. Dziewulski, Directed Energy Public Affairs*

KIRTLAND AFB, N.M. - A senior scientist with the Air Force Research Laboratory's Directed Energy Directorate here received a Governor's Award for Outstanding New Mexico Women at an awards banquet in May.

The award is based on community involvement as well as professional leadership.

Jane M. Lehr, of the directorate's High Power Microwave Division, combined enthusiasm, professional accomplishments along with community involvement, as one of 30 award recipients.

For the past two years, Lehr was project officer for the Kirtland Air Force Base American Indian Heritage Month Activities, an annual event promoting Native American awareness.

A graduate of The Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, N. J., and native New Yorker, she led a 25-member team that coordinated the month's activities that included exhibits, performances and awards luncheons where she served as mistress of ceremonies.

"Dr. Lehr gained active participation from a wide variety of local organization for the each of the American Indian Heritage Month observations. She did an admirable job," Vince Montoya, the base's American Indian Programs manager, said of her accomplishments.

She described her two-year stint as project officer as very broadening. Lehr has made significant advances in her four years as a government researcher. "I've learned how an Air Force base operates and have made contacts that helped me during a special events project," she said. "There's a lot of tedium with bursts of excitement."

Lehr's fascination with research and science began her senior year in college during a plasma physics lab. In the summer of 1992, she was a Summer Research Fellow, in a program sponsored by the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, High-Energy Plasma Division.

Within two years, Lehr's research with pulsed power and



OUTSTANDING NEW MEXICO WOMAN - Dr. Jane Lehr, a senior scientist with the Air Force Research Laboratory's Directed Energy Directorate, High Power Microwave Division, adjusts a MARX/PFN pulser.

electromagnetics surpassed the achievements of the previous 15 years. Her research team developed a portable, high-power radiating system that has military and medical applications that has received one patent and has another pending.

Lehr's work in ultrafast high-power switching and compact pulsed power is one of nine Air Force Materiel Command nominees for an Air Force Basic Research Award.

She remains active with the heritage program serving on its planning committee. Lehr is also active in the Albuquerque community teaching a Sunday school class for kindergartners at the Montgomery Church of Christ.

She has a master's and doctorate degree from Polytechnic Institute of New York, Brooklyn, N. Y., in electrical engineering and plasma physics. @